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## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides an apparatus and method for determining the quality of a digital signal (S). The incoming digital signal (S) is sampled with a number n of samples per defined pulse width, whereby  $n \ge 1$ , using clock cycles (CLK). In the following, an edge detector (20) detects the edge position of a pulse of the sampled digital signal and a counter (30) counts the clock cycles between at least a first edge and a second edge detected by the edge detector. A deviation detector (40) then compares the counted clock cycles (EEC) with a prestored reference-value (EEC<sub>0</sub>) in order to provide a deviation value (RJ) as a measure for the instantaneous quality of the digital signal (S). This deviation value (RJ) is then fed to a rework unit that outputs a value (J) that is a measure for the quality of the digital signal.

[Fig. 3]